

roses, development of community rose gardens of educational value, exhibitions by amateur gardeners, or unusual rose collections of special merit.

This medal could not have been awarded to a more deserving person in the rose industry. Larry is a Board Member and the only two-term president of All America Rose Selections, Inc., and a Board Member of the Fund for the United States Botanic Garden. His efforts in the 1980s resulted in the rose's designation as the National Floral Emblem of the United States, and he was instrumental in the establishment of a National Rose Garden. Groundbreaking for this two-acre garden adjacent to the United States Botanic Garden took place in 2001. His leadership also was evident in raising the funds to remodel and reopen the National Botanical Garden on the National Mall.

Larry serves as vice president of Certified Roses, Inc., of Tyler. This employee-owned corporation is the second largest processor of roses in North America, annually providing up to five and one-half million rose bushes of all varieties. His company is a constant force in producing new rose hybrids and new market development, and he assists both domestic and international hybridizers in plant evaluation and the naming and marketing of new roses. In recognition of his achievements, he has received several All America Rose Selections awards.

Larry has been an active member of the American Rose Society and Texas Nursery and Landscape Association, and he is past president of the Texas Rose Research Foundation. He is also active in the Texas Rose Festival Association in Tyler, the Tyler Rose Museum, Order of the Rose and Texas Rose Society.

With 2002 declared by Congress as the Year of the Rose, Larry will help carry forward this theme, and I can think of no one more devoted to this cause nor more deserving of our recognition and appreciation. Larry has helped raise our national awareness of the rose as an important symbol to our country. His work has benefitted our Nation's Capital, the State of Texas, and his hometown of Tyler. Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of the accomplishments of my dear friend, and I know that my colleagues join me today in congratulating him on this award—and expressing our Nation's gratitude for the work Larry Burks has done to promote this beautiful National flower and to encourage civic involvement in this worthy cause.

MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD F.
GILLIS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness, and that of the entire Robins Air Force Base community in Middle Georgia, over the passing of my good friend, retired Major General Richard F. (Dick) Gillis.

General Gillis commanded the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center at a critical time in our country's history and that of Robins, and he carried out that mission as he did all his assignments: with outstanding patriotism, competence, and leadership. Uniquely among

commanders, he served this center in three separate positions: as the director of maintenance, as the ALC vice commander, and as ALC commander.

The current ALC commander, Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam, said it exceptionally well: "General Dick Gillis was a courageous leader during a period of great change in our Air Force. His foresight and wisdom made this a better place to live and work. We'll all miss him."

During his command General Gillis made Robins a less likely candidate for base closure by bringing in the Joint STARS mission; by working hard to assure future workloads; by preventing a reduction in force when other ALCs were losing work force; by working on aerospace industry expansion and educational enhancement in the Middle Georgia area. Gen. Gillis led the center very ably during the critical times of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and during the Persian Gulf War.

General Gillis was a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours. While assigned to Tan Son Nhut Air Base, South Vietnam, General Gillis flew 100 combat missions in RF-101A/C aircraft. Over his 38 year Air Force career, General Gillis' military awards and decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and oak leaf cluster, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with five service stars, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with eight oak leaf clusters, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Mr. Speaker, General Gillis was a great commander of Robins, a great American, and he will be missed so very much. It is most appropriate that his burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery on October 15. Our country has lost a strong leader, and I am proud to have known him and worked with him.

HONORING SAN LUIS OBISPO FIRE
CHIEF ROBERT F. NEUMANN

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring my constituent, Fire Chief Robert "Bob" F. Neumann for his significant contributions to our Central Coast community. This past May, Chief Neumann retired from the San Luis Obispo City Fire Department.

Chief Neumann entered the field of fire fighting in 1968 as a firefighter, and served our community as a Fire Inspector, Fire Engineer, Fire Dispatcher, Fire Captain, Fire Battalion Chief and Fire Marshal and became Fire Chief in 1991. Chief Neumann obtained degrees in Fire Science and Soil Science at Cuesta Community College and California Polytechnic State University, both of which are located in the 22nd congressional district.

In 1985, Chief Neumann served as the City's Operation Section Chief on the 50,000 acre, Las Pilitas Fire that threatened the City of San Luis Obispo. For the 48 hours that it took to contain this fire Chief Neumann supervised 20 Type-I and 2 Strike Teams. A series of storms combined with a loss of water-shed caused by the Highway 41 Fire in 1994, resulted in extensive flooding in the downtown area of San Luis Obispo in February of 1995. Throughout the 48 hours when the floods ran through the City, Bob served as Fire Incident Commander and helped to avert disaster. Significant moments in Bob's career, during which he displayed exemplary service were also seen in the Highway 58 fire in August of 1996. During this natural catastrophe Bob essentially served as Deputy Branch Director of the organized command structure.

The City of San Luis Obispo has been most fortunate to have been served by Chief Neumann for 27 years. I am proud to congratulate Bob on his remarkable record of achievement during his 34-year career.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
DAVE HAMIL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the Honorable Dave Hamil of Sterling, Colorado, who passed away on July 27, 2002. Dave Hamil was an exceptional man who spent his life serving his community and his nation.

Dave Hamil's story is a great American story. As a child, Dave attended a one-room school on Colorado's Eastern Plains. In 1925, he graduated from Logan County Industrial Arts High School as the Student Body President.

After graduating with honors from Hastings College in 1930, Dave returned to Logan County, where he started a farming and ranching business. In 1933, he married Genevieve Robinson. Dave and Genevieve were married 64 years. The couple had three children, Jo Ann, Don and Jack.

In 1938, the same year he was first elected to the Colorado House of Representatives, Mr. Hamil helped organize the Sterling section of the Highline Electric Cooperative. This brought electricity to the farms and ranches of Logan County for the very first time.

During his tenure in the legislature, Mr. Hamil served as Speaker of the Colorado House for five years, from 1951 to 1956. Among his accomplishments were locating the Air Force Academy near Colorado Springs and extending Interstate 70 west through the Eisenhower Tunnel and into Utah.

In 1956, President Dwight Eisenhower appointed Hamil as administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). He was so talented in that capacity, when Richard Nixon was elected president, he asked Dave to return to the post. Mr. Hamil continued to serve as the REA administrator during the Ford and Carter administrations.

Between the Eisenhower and Nixon administrations, Dave was appointed by Colorado Governor John Love to serve as Director of Institutions for the state. There he used his exceptional management skills to create one of the best mental health systems in the nation.

Although his successful career often took him away from his Colorado home, when he retired in 1979, Dave Hamil returned to Sterling. Over the years, he has served on the boards of a host of community organizations, including the Atwood School District Board, the Elks Lodge, the Masonic Lodge, the Sterling United Way, and the Logan County Chamber of Commerce. Dave also served as president of the Logan County Historical Society, where he helped with the Johnson addition to the Overland Trail Museum. That same museum now includes a building named in Dave Hamil's honor.

A citizen of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Dave Hamil was truly a great American. It is with sadness that I inform the House of the loss of such an exceptional American. I ask the House to join me in extending our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Mr. Dave Hamil.

HONORING JOYCE KELLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JEWISH ASSOCIATION FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Joyce Keller, Executive Director of the Jewish Association for Residential Care located in Farmington Hills, Michigan in my Congressional District. She recently received the 2002 Spirit of Service Honor Award from the Michigan Assisted Living Association for her outstanding dedication and commitment to community-based services.

When Joyce Keller became executive director of JARC at age 26, the organization had one home, three employees, and served seven individuals with developmental disabilities. Their annual budget was \$40,000. Today, JARC is an \$8 million agency that serves over 150 adults in a variety of residential settings, provides support services to over 300 families with a disabled child or family member still living at home, and employs over 200 staff members. In her 25th year as executive director, Ms. Keller continues to oversee and ensure the highest quality of service, as well as the raising of nearly \$2 million annually in private contributions and a \$13 million endowment fund.

Ms. Keller has assumed extensive and substantial leadership roles, serving on the President's Committee on Mental Retardation and the Governor's Community Health Advisory Council in Michigan. In addition to her recent award from the Michigan Assisted Living Association, Ms. Keller has been honored with several distinguished awards over the course of her career, including being named Michigania of the Year by the Detroit News.

Mr. Speaker, with Joyce's tenacity, dynamism and creativity, JARC has become one of the largest and well-respected organizations for residential care in the country. She is passionate about honoring the dignity of the people JARC serves and enabling them to live rich and purposeful lives. Joyce Keller is a relentless advocate for the right of every individual to be valued and respected in our society and I congratulate her on the occasion of

receiving the 2002 Spirit of Service Honor Award. She is truly a worthy recipient.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH CRESPIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Rudolph Crespin of Mack, Colorado. Rudolph dedicated his life to working the land and fought to defend the freedoms of this nation, and it is with honor I stand today to recognize Rudolph for his great service to our nation and our communities.

Rudolph was born in Las Vegas, New Mexico on December 16, 1919 to Rafael and Paulina (Quesnil) Crespin. He grew up in the nearby Antlers Rifle area and married Frances Romero. In World War II, Rudolph served in the US Army overseas. His service to this nation is commendable and its value immeasurable. It is all too easy to take for granted the freedoms that he helped secure through his service; but we cannot allow ourselves to forget the important sacrifices of men and women like Rudolph Crespin.

After the war, Rudolph moved to the Western Slope of Colorado where he could enjoy his lifelong interests in fishing and hunting. He spent the next 40 years farming in the Rifle and Loma areas, where good sense and industry are still the backbones of the economy. He also became a member of other communities and resided in the Grand Valley and Mack. His legacy includes his four sons; Sam, Rudy, Santos, and David Crespin; as well as nine grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rudolph Crespin's life and memory before this body of Congress and this nation. His courage to serve our country, even the world, in a terrible global conflict showed his mettle, as did his commitment to the values and principles of agriculture and the communities he served. As his family and friends mourn his life, they can take comfort that the impact of his contributions to his nation will not be forgotten. Rudolph's lifetime of contributions to the communities of Colorado and this nation deserves our praise and I am proud to honor him today.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BILL FEDDERSEN

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Dr. Bill Feddersen, President of Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California.

Dr. Feddersen began his teaching career in Florida after receiving his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois. He went on to complete his master's and doctoral degrees in higher education at Columbia University where he was a Kellogg Community College Leadership Fellow.

At age 32, after serving in administrative positions at Bucks County Community College

(PA) and Iowa Western Community College, Dr. Feddersen became one of the youngest college presidents in the country when he assumed the presidency of what is now the Pennsylvania College of Technology. For the past twenty-one years he has been a California community college president, first at Napa Valley College and since 1991, at Mt. San Antonio College.

Dr. Feddersen has served in a variety of state and leadership positions, including president of the California Community CEO Organization, and a member of the board of Directors of the Community College League of California and the Association of California Community College Administrators. Nationally, he is an officer of the Continuous Quality Improvement Network and serves on North Central Association's Academic Quality Improvement Project Advisory Council.

Thank you Dr. Feddersen for all of your hard work and dedication to advance education in our country. Your efforts will benefit the lives of others both now and for years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LUCY HALL

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Lucy Hall, founder of the Mary Hall Freedom House in Atlanta. Lucy was recently selected as one of ten people from across the country to receive the nation's most prestigious award for community health leadership from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Her award includes a grant of \$120,000 to continue her community efforts.

Lucy founded the Mary Hall Freedom House in memory of her mother, who she lost to alcoholism at the age of six. Freedom House is a residential recovery program to help addicted mothers break the pattern of substance abuse. The program provides women with intensive chemical dependency treatment and vocational training.

She launched the Freedom House in 1996 while working as a housekeeper and volunteering as a counselor in Atlanta. Lucy used \$5,000 in seed money from her employer to get the effort started. From this modest beginning, the program has grown to serve 250 women a year, many of whom are referred from the court system and homeless shelters.

The program, which started out as six beds in a three-bedroom apartment, now has 70 beds in 26 apartments—and Freedom House now has a staff of over 30 people.

Lucy realized early on that many addicted women with small children had no access to residential treatment because most recovery programs did not admit children. So, she made Freedom House the only residential recovery program in Atlanta for women with children. Now, the children take part in prevention lessons to teach them how to avoid becoming substance abusers themselves. She also recently opened the Heavenly Angels' Day Care Center to provide care for children while their mothers attend treatment and training programs.

Mr. Speaker, by creating the Mary Hall Freedom House, Lucy Hall has demonstrated